

MUNITION TAX IS REVISED IN REVENUE BILL

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Complete revision of the munitions tax section of the house revenue bill and sweeping increases in the inheritance tax were ordered recommended by the democratic caucus today by democratic members of the senate finance committee.

The proposed higher taxes on everything inheritance would increase the estimated revenue from that section of the bill alone from \$54,000,000 to \$72,000,000 annually. Retaining the house bill taxes of one per cent on estates over \$50,000 graduated up to five per cent on those in excess of \$450,000, the committee added schedules on six per cent estates in excess of \$1,000,000; seven per cent, on \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000; eight per cent, on \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000; nine per cent, on \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000; and ten per cent estate in excess of \$5,000,000.

In revising munitions tax the committee struck out the varying rates provided in the house bill for munitions of war, powder, explosives, shells, cartridges, projectiles, products of copper and the like, and decided to submit a flat uniform tax on all of these commodities. Determining that the tax should be made a net profit tax on the manufacture, the committee also decided to add the following commodities utilized in making munitions: steel billets, ingots, blooms, shell forgings, denatured alcohol and cotton linters. In addition, chemicals actually used in the manufacture of munitions would be taxed. The rate to be imposed still is to be determined.

In consideration of revision of the munitions section, secretary McAdoo sat with the committee and submitted statistics showing that upon all of the commodities added to the taxable list profits have been abnormal since

GERMANS FAIL TO CARRY OUT ORDER TO TAKE HILL 160

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columns of one battalion each. The British artillery immediately began a harassing fire of remarkable precision, which cut down the assailants' ranks, forcing them to a precipitate retreat. Profiting by the confusion of their adversaries, the English, with much presence of mind, vigorously attacked the Germans northwest of Pozieres. Australians and troops from County Kent charged, and at the point of the bayonet captured two lines of trenches. In all, they made progress about 200 meters in the direction of Martinpuich.

NAMED MINISTER OF CITY TEMPLE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LONDON, August 7.—Dr. Joseph P. Newton, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., has been asked to accept the ministry of the City Temple, after filling the pulpit of the famous church in a manner highly gratifying to his congregations during the first two Sundays of the month.

Although he is sailing presently for New York, it is almost certain that he will accept. It is predicted that the City Temple days of spiritual awakening and enlightenment that marked the period when the Rev. R. J. Campbell was enjoying the height of his success as minister, will be revived under the American's leadership. Men and women from all parts of London of all classes and of all creeds and of no creed, have been flocking to hear Dr. Newton. Tall and dark, with finely-chiseled features and a pallid face, he speaks rather slowly, but in tones that can express a hundred different emotions. His congregations are unusually responsive.

Dr. Newton, in an interview published in a London paper, has asserted his belief that the United States would not have a friend in the world after the war, as a result of her failure to protest at the violation of the independence of Belgium.

"It has been a great source of grief to me that my country should have remained neutral," he said. "No man of my belief can be neutral. But I hope that English people have not translated the attitude of our government into indifference of the people. America is even as much the tragedy of the war that she wishes to keep out of it, but she is overwhelmingly pro-ally."

Though laying great stress on the number of ties to be broken before an acceptance of the call extended to him here, Dr. Newton spoke of the City Temple's congregation as the most wonderful in the world.

PHILIPPINE BILL REPORTED

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
WASHINGTON, August 7.—The Philippine government extension bill, which would have provided for freedom of the islands within four years, was reported to the senate from conference today. The conference virtually restored the language of the house bill, which affirmed the purpose for freedom in the Philippines.

MAY OPEN WAY TO FOOD SHIPMENTS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LONDON, August 7.—The foreign office tomorrow will send a memorandum to Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, which will leave the way open for the resumption of the negotiations for feeding the civilian populations of the German occupied areas, the conditions for which as laid down by Great Britain were recently rejected by Germany.

The memorandum will suggest that the United States government can reopen the question if it regards such a step advisable and useful. Germany's reply rejecting the British offer, which has already been published in the United States and Great Britain's reply thereto, will be made public here within a few days. The British reply will deny the contentions of Germany that the British proposals were too long delayed and that owing to favorable crop reports action could be dispensed with after October 1, and also that the next harvest would provide for the needs of the people with the exception of certain periods, when their condition will be straightened. The reply will say that no assurance is so false that it is unworthy of discussion and that reports in the possession of the British government refute the latter.

Discussing the phase of the situation today an official of the foreign office told the Associated Press that the offer to resume the negotiations would be made in good faith, but that no assurance could be given that the British proposals could be made again on the former basis, since the government had been informed that the Germans were already taking the harvests in the occupied areas.

BILL TO RATIFY THE BRYAN TREATY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
THE HAGUE, Netherlands, August 7.—A bill to ratify the Bryan treaty signed at Washington on December 18, 1913, between Holland and the United States, agreeing to submit all differences whatsoever to a permanent international commission for inquiry and report, has been discussed in the sections of committees of the second chamber.

Critics were not wanting, but on the whole the bill seems to have had a good reception. Several members expressed their satisfaction that, despite what was going on in surrounding countries, the government continues to attach value to treaties which aim at preventing wars, and expressed the view that endeavors must continue to be made to further peace by this agency. While one or two deputies termed the value of such an agreement doubtful and even regarded it as without

IS YUAN SHI-KAI DEAD OR ALIVE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
PEKING, Aug. 7.—Not content with surrounding Yuan Shi-kai's death by mystery and suggesting that he either killed himself or was poisoned, the enemies of the late president are now suggesting that he is not dead at all, but has made his escape to a foreign land and shielded his associates in alleged irregularities by means of the funeral and changed government.

This astounding view is not confined to mere word-of-mouth gossip, but has found its way into the Chinese press, and is apparently believed by some Chinese, particularly those of the coolie class. An anonymous letter-writer whose communication appears in the Peking Daily Gazette says: "Do you think any one is so stupid to believe that Yuan Shi-kai is dead or this whole piece of public theatricality which we have been committing in anything more than a huge and very successful practical joke perpetrated by those implicated in China's misdeeds so as to free themselves from the grasp of justice?"

"Just allow me to run over the scenes of this recent farce. First, the banks were robbed officially and not of other depositions committed. There was no way to escape the consequences except by heaping all the blame on one person, and then smuggling him away in foreign death."

"Second, the other participants in the crime had sufficient latent power at the time of Yuan Shi-kai's death, and his success in escaping was due to the aid of a national hero."

In concluding his letter, the correspondent says: "Talk of foreign exports? What are foreign exports, but so many associated for the chicanery to a corrupt bureaucracy? Does China need any foreign advice—or has she ever taken any—in the tricks of politics, diplomacy, finance, electioneering, or of journalism? China can give tips to a corrupt world in any of the arts of statecraft. I do not refer to professional experts. When you buy a machine in any country or embark in anything new, you get a man to show you its work; but the Chinese are past masters at anything in statecraft."

danger that the international commission would become acquainted with all kinds of documents and correspondence, others attached great importance to the treaty, pointing out that it may be especially of practical value in view of the nearness of the Philippines to the Dutch East Indian possessions and with a view to Holland's West Indian colonies.

THURSTON IS SINKING

OMAHA, Aug. 7.—The condition of John M. Thurston, former U. S. senator who was pronounced by physicians to be dying today remained unchanged late tonight. At midnight the attending physicians said death was certain to occur within a few hours. He has been suffering for weeks from heat prostration.

HUNTERS WELCOME ON HIGLEY RANCHES

Several ranchers from the Higley district have petitioned the game warden's office to give or obtain for them relief from the hordes of doves and white wings, which are at present making life miserable for them, and destroying their crops.

The only thing that the game warden can do is to advise them to invite hunters to come out and thin out the winged pests a bit. This they have done, in fact they will do everything but furnish the guns and ammunition, if hunters will visit their district and thin out the birds a bit. Another element has also arisen. Jack rabbits and cotton tails in enormous quantities have made their appearance, and are doing immense damage. There is no bounty on the cotton tails, who are doing just as much damage as their rider and larger brethren the jack rabbits. They have discovered no feasible way of poisoning the rabbits, and it costs too much to spend valuable time in shooting them.

PIKE'S PEAK CLIMB CALLS FOR SPEED

COLORADO SPRINGS, August 7.—The winner of the Pike's Peak automobile race to be run here next Thursday, Friday and Saturday, will cover the distance of 12½ miles under 15 minutes if the time made today during the official A. A. A. run may be taken as a criterion. The first of the official speed trials over the difficult mountain course took place this morning at 10 o'clock. The first race was a 1000 ft. race, and the first prize was won by a Buick. The second race was a 1000 ft. race, and the first prize was won by a Buick. The third race was a 1000 ft. race, and the first prize was won by a Buick.

With the present strife ended, Liang Shih-yi said, it will be possible to better the financial conditions, as Chinese resources are practically unlimited, and the country under a judicious system of tax collection is capable of meeting all obligations without burdening the people with extra taxes.

KILLED HAVING PICTURE TAKEN

SAN ANTONIO, Aug. 7.—James Gerizgan, one time partner of John Deyniet, was killed just outside the city this afternoon while speeding his auto up a hill to have his picture taken in action.

FINANCES OF CHINA UP IN THE AIR

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
PEKING, Aug. 7.—Conflicting rumors have been circulating about the finances of the Chinese government since specie payment was suspended on the notes of the Bank of Communications and the Bank of China, the two government financial institutions.

Liang Shih-yi, who was the right hand man of Yuan Shi-kai and the moving spirit in the Bank of Communications, has been charged by the revolutionary press with having wrecked the Bank of Communications and brought the government to financial ruin. Auditors are at work and a statement has been promised for many weeks, but is still lacking.

Liang Shih-yi, who retired shortly after the death of Yuan Shi-kai and is now in Hongkong, has issued a statement seeking to justify his own course and defend his administration of the bank. He says that revolutionary troubles proved a great drain upon the government, which was forced to borrow more than thirty million dollars (Mexican) from the Bank of China and forty-six million dollars (Mexican) from the Bank of Communications. Consequently these two banks were unable to meet their obligations.

The only remedy for the present situation, in the opinion of Liang Shih-yi, is for the government to contract a large foreign loan, probably one hundred million dollars gold, with the surplus of the salt revenue and the land tax as security.

If you want to know the real cause of the present financial panic," says Liang Shih-yi's statement, "we must review the history of the finances of this country for the past twenty years. Our exports have not been equal to our deterioration of trade and industry, the increase of foreign loans and the lack of exchange organs in foreign countries have also been instrumental in bringing about the present unsatisfactory condition."

GOING AFTER STEFANSSON

SEATTLE, August 7.—A wireless message received today from John Borden, of Chicago, who, with Captain Louis Lane, of Seattle, is heading an expedition into the Arctic in the power schooner Great Bear, reported the vessel's arrival at Unalakleet yesterday, eleven days out from Seattle. From Unalakleet the Great Bear will proceed to Nome and then will go into the Arctic in the expectation of picking up Vilhjalmar Stefansson, the Canadian explorer, at Banks Land.

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DEATH SENTENCE IS COMMUTED

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 7.—The death sentence imposed on Onne Talas, convicted for the murder of Mrs. Austin A. Nichols, a wealthy widow of New York, was commuted to imprisonment for life by Governor Whitman today. Talas, who was a servant in Mrs. Nichols' household, confessed at the instigation of Arthur Walden, a former servant in the house, he admitted him to the house with the understanding that Walden would rob Mrs. Nichols and divide the profits of the crime with him. Walden and two companions bound Talas and then strangled Mrs. Nichols and stole her jewelry.

WORKMEN DEMAND REPRISALS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]
LONDON, August 7.—One of the biggest demonstrations by workmen that has occurred during the war took place in Trafalgar Square today. The great gathering demanded reprisals for the execution of Captain Fryatt of the British steamer Brussels by the Germans in Belgium, speakers urging the impounding of all German property and the hanging of Emperor William, Admiral von Tirpitz and Governor General von Bismarck of Belgium, as "common malefactors" before the conclusion of peace.

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